

**2008 Grouper Forum**  
**FWC's Fish and Wildlife Research Institute**  
**February 26, 2008**  
**6:00-10:00 pm**

**Objectives**

- Enhance communication on fisheries regulatory issues between fishery management agencies and constituents.
- Provide an overview of ongoing federal management actions related to grouper.
- Explain the role of science in the fishery management process.
- Address frequently asked stakeholder questions about grouper science and management.

**Agenda**

**6:00 Welcome and Opening Remarks**

- Introduction – Roy Crabtree, NOAA Fisheries
- Forum agenda and objectives – Michael Munz, Facilitator

**6:10 Ongoing Grouper Management Actions – Bill Teehan, Gulf Council**

- Why is action required?
- Proposed management measures
- Where is the Council in the regulatory process?

**6:20 Stakeholder Perspectives on Grouper Science and Management**

- Environmental - Libby Fetherston, Ocean Conservancy
- Recreational - Ted Forsgren, Coastal Conservation Association
- Commercial - Will Ward, Gulf Fishermen's Association

**6:50 Understanding Federal Mandates and Legal Requirements – Shepherd Grimes, NOAA Fisheries**

**7:00 What is the Role of Science in Fisheries Management? – Luiz Barbieri, FWRI**

**7:10 Frequently Asked Stakeholder Questions**

**8:30 Open Dialogue with Stakeholders**

**9:45 Closing Remarks**

**10:00 Adjourn**